

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending and at issue. Claims 15 is objected to for informalities. Claims 1, 2, 7-9, 13, 14, and 15 are rejected as being obvious over Griffin et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0063456) in view of Larsen (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0064183). Claims 3-6, 10-12 are rejected as being obvious over Griffin et al. and Larsen in further view of one of De Ruijter (U.S. Publication 2005/0036568), Johnston et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,787,360), Folger, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,337,044), or Watler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,836,655). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following comments.

Claim 15 is amended to replace "I" with "is" as suggested by the office action. Thus, the claim objection of claim 15 should now be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-15 as obvious over any combination of Griffin et al. and Larsen with De Ruijter, Johnston et al., Folger et al., or Watler et al. As provided in MPEP § 2142, "[t]o establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference, or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on Applicant's disclosure." *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20; USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991); see also MPEP § 2143-2143.03 for decisions pertinent to each criteria. Each of claims 1-15 recites an interface circuit that is adapted to send and receive messages on an electrical power supply line. Neither of the references discloses an interface circuit that is adapted to send and receive messages on an electrical power supply line, nor does the office action even assert that any of these references teach the missing element. It follows that the Office fails to make a *prima facie* case of obviousness, nor can the office make a *prima facie* case of obviousness based on the cited references.

While Griffin et al. discloses a system for incorporating a wireless headset with a cellular telephone, Griffin et al. fails to disclose or teach an interface circuit adapted to send and receive messages over an electrical power supply line. Generally, Griffin et al. discloses a system that is commonly known as a Bluetooth wireless handset coupled to a cell phone.

These wireless handsets are used in lieu of older, wired handsets that are physically connected to the cell phones. Griffin et al. system uses a long range transceiver combo (164, 168) to communicate between a first module (e.g., a cell phone) with a long range wireless network (e.g., a wireless carrier network such as T-Mobile, Verizon, etc.) and a short range transceiver combo (166, 170) that communicates between the first module and a wireless handset device (162). Griffin et al. fails to disclose communication of any messages over a power supply line, in any manner.

Moreover, none of Larsen, De Ruijter, Johnston et al., Folger et al., or Watler et al. discloses an interface circuit that is adapted to send and receive messages on an electrical power supply line, nor are any of these references cited for this purpose. It follows, therefore, that no combination of Griffin et al., Larsen, De Ruijter, Johnston et al., Folger et al., and Watler et al. can render any of the pending claims obvious.

Furthermore, none of these references teaches or suggests sending or receiving messages over an electrical power supply line. Instead, each one of these references discloses providing signals or messages over general communication lines that do not entail supplying electrical power to a device. It follows, therefore, that none of the references provide the necessary motivation to combine or modify their teachings to result in the claimed invention. For this further reason, no combination of the cited references can render any of the pending claims obvious.

In the previous response, Applicants added new claim 16 which recites similar elements to independent claims 1 and 7 described above. Specifically, new claim 16 recites, in part, a central base and electronic central unit, an interface connected to the electronic central unit and supply line, and a low pass filter between the interface circuit and other circuits of the central base and adapted to filter the high frequency periodic signals from the supply line, where the central unit is adapted to determine whether an incoming alphanumeric message is intended for an external device and generate a message corresponding to the alphanumeric message on the supply line using the interface circuit. As discussed above, none of the cited references discloses or teaches sending or receiving messages on an electrical power supply line, much less sending a message corresponding to a received alphanumeric message from a public telecommunication network on an electrical power supply line. Therefore, none of the cited references can anticipate or render obvious new claim 16.

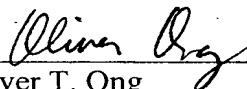
CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that this case is in a condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of rejected claims 1-16.

Respectfully submitted,

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